

King County Benchmarks

2005-2006

Economics

Highlights

Recovering From Recession

Following several years of economic slowdown, signs of growth suggest a recovery is underway in King County.

King County's unemployment rate fell to 5.1% in 2004, dipping below 5% in 2005. However, employment growth has been unevenly distributed as construction, health care, administrative professions, and the hospitality industry saw growth while losses occurred in finance and insurance and manufacturing (mainly aerospace manufacturing).

Though unemployment has dropped, wages and income have struggled to keep up with inflation. After extraordinary growth in wages in the mid to late 1990's, wages for software publishers have decreased almost 20% per year since 1999 when they peaked at nearly \$190,000. The high wages in 1999 were bolstered by stock options paid out in the information industry. Excluding the software industry, real wages have grown by a little over 1% per year since 2000.

After 25% growth during the 1990's, real per capita personal income is still below 2000 levels but has

rallied with a nominal increase from 2002 to 2003. Despite the considerable slowdown in income growth after 1999, real per capita personal income has risen 17% since 1993.

When adjusted for inflation, median household income has grown 2% from 2000-2004. However, household income has not grown evenly among King County's households. The proportion of households earning under 50% of median household income and those earning more than 150% of the median have grown while the proportion of households earning between 50% and 149% of the median has shrunk.





With uneven growth in incomes, many households continue to struggle to make ends meet. While the poverty rate in King County is significantly lower than the national rate, it has grown at a faster rate. The 2004 national poverty rate of 13.1% was a one percent increase from 1980 while the poverty rate in King County grew to 10.4% in 2004, a 35% increase in the same time period. As King County's population grew by close to 520,000 persons, the number of people living in poverty has nearly doubled in the last 24 years.

(continued on page eight)

Table of Contents

Highlights:	1
Indicator 1: Real Wages Per Worker.....	1
Indicator 2: Personal & Median Household Income.....	3
Indicator 3: Percent of Population in Poverty.....	4
Indicator 4: New Businesses Created.....	4
Indicator 5: New Jobs Created, by Sector.....	5
Indicator 6: Employment in Industries that Export.....	6
Indicator 7: Educational Background of Population.....	7
Indicator 8: Graduation Rate.....	7
Data Sources.....	8

Indicator Flags

-  There has been a long-term trend in a positive direction, or most recent data shows a marked improvement.
-  There has been little significant movement in this Indicator, or the trend has been mixed.
-  There has been a long-term negative trend, or the most recent data shows a significant downturn.
-  There is insufficient reliable data for this Indicator.

Outcome: Promote Family-Wage Jobs

Indicator 1: Real Wages Per Worker

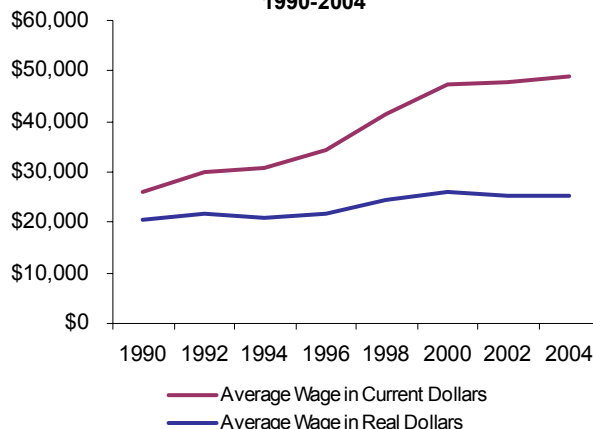
Countywide Planning Policy Rationale

"Economic development is growth and change in the economy whereby the economic health of the region...is enhanced. An important component...is...the maintenance and creation of higher (family) wage jobs." (CPP FW-35)
 "Jurisdictions' comprehensive plans shall address the historic disparity in income and employment opportunities for minorities, women, and economically disadvantaged individuals" (CPP ED-12)

Key Trends

- In current dollars, the average wage in King County was \$49,094 in 2004, or \$25,215 when adjusted to 1983 dollars. This represents a 21% increase in real dollars from the average wage of \$20,790 10 years earlier.

Fig. 1.1 Average Wage in Current and Real Dollars: 1990-2004



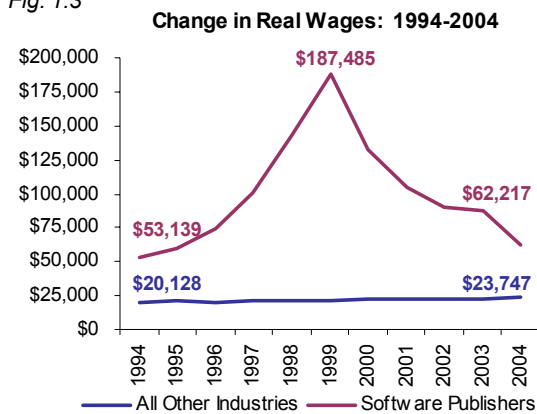
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Metropolitan King County Countywide Planning Policies Benchmark Program

Indicator 1 (continued)

- Industries outside the software sector have averaged over 4% growth in current dollar wages per year, increasing from \$25,840 in 1990 to \$46,200 in 2004. Wages in current dollars in the software-publishing industry have outpaced that growth, increasing by over 5.5% in the same period.
- After showing strong growth from 1996-1999, real wages reached a peak of \$26,440 in 1999. Real wages decreased in 2000 as the region entered a recession and have yet to return to their 1999 level.
- While the recession lowered average real wages, the software publishing industry was disproportionately affected by the economic downturn. Unprecedented growth in the late 1990's led to the industry's wage peak in real dollars of \$187,485 in 1999 that dropped to \$62,217 in 2004. Despite this, real wages in the software publishing industry have increased by over 17% over the last 10 years.
- When the software publishing industry is excluded, real wages have grown steadily from \$20,128 in 1994 to \$23,747 in 2004. This represents almost 17% growth in real wages for non-software publishing industry wage earners.

Fig. 1.3



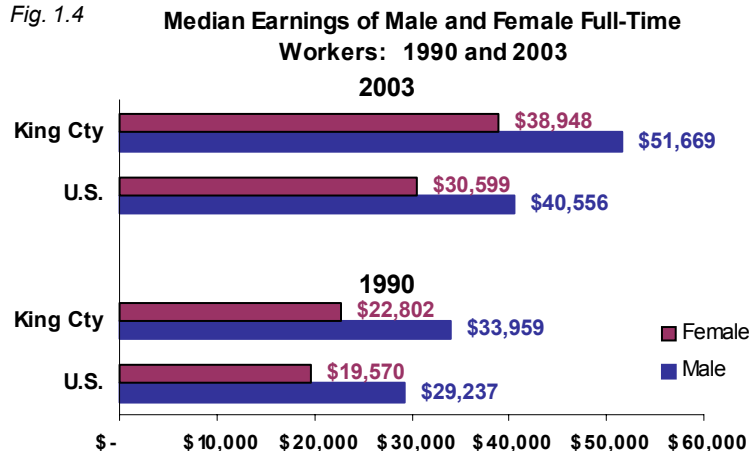
- In 1990, the median earnings of year-round full-time female workers throughout the U.S. were about 67% of the earnings of their male counterparts. In 2003, women were earning about 75% of their male counterparts.

Fig. 1.2

Average Wages Per Covered Worker in King County						
	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All Covered Workers in King County						
Average Wages in Real Dollars	\$20,630	\$26,082	\$25,587	\$25,313	\$25,478	\$25,215
Average Wages in Current Dollars	\$26,159	\$47,339	\$47,183	\$47,917	\$48,995	\$49,094
Software Publishers vs. All Other Industry Workers						
Average wages in current dollars: Software Publishers	\$53,359	\$240,151	\$193,511	\$169,531	\$168,897	\$121,137
Average wages in current dollars: all other industries	\$25,843	\$40,998	\$41,943	\$43,384	\$44,330	\$46,236

- While female workers continue to earn less than their male counterparts, women's earnings throughout the country have increased at a faster rate than men's earnings. Since 1990, women's earnings have increased by approximately 3.5% per year while men's earnings have increased by about 2.6% per year.
- Over the last 14 years, women's earnings in King County continue to close the earnings gap, increasing by almost 4.2% per year while men's earnings have increased by just over 3.3% per year.

Fig. 1.4



King County Growth Management Planning Council Members

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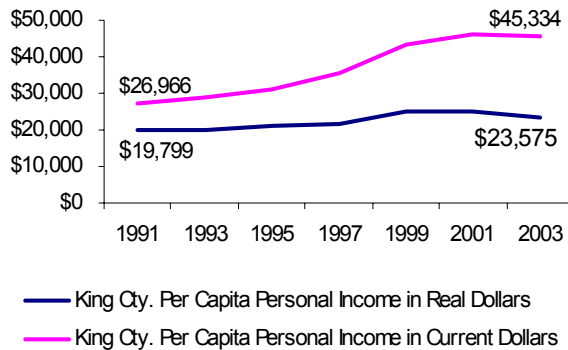
Alternate Members

David Della, Councilmember, City of Seattle
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Phil Noble, Deputy Mayor, Bellevue

Outcome: Increase Income and Reduce Poverty**Indicator 2: Per Capita Personal Income and Median Household Income: King County Compared to the United States****Countywide Planning Policy Rationale**

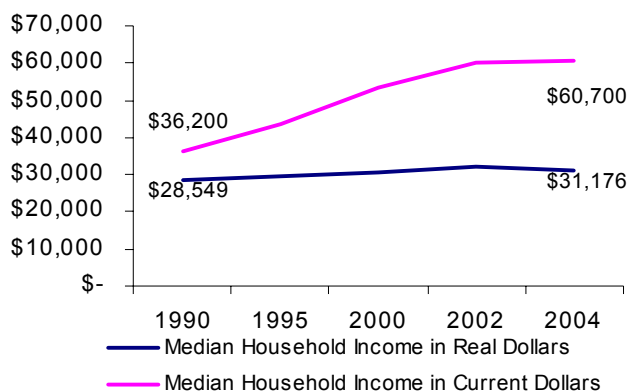
"Jurisdictions should cooperatively create an environment which sustains the economic vitality of the region.... An important component...is ...the maintenance and creation of higher (family) wage jobs." (CPP IX, Intro., FW-35) "Jurisdictions' comprehensive plans shall address the historic disparity in income and employment opportunities for minorities, women, and economically disadvantaged individuals." (CPP ED-12)

Fig. 2.1 **Per Capita Personal Income: 1991-2003**

**Key Trends****Per Capita Personal Income**

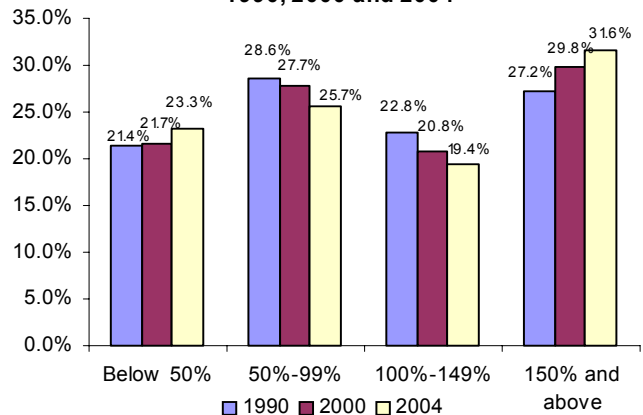
- King County's 2003 per capita income of \$45,300 was 144% of the national per capita income of \$31,500. This is consistent with historical trends, as King County's per capita income averaged 143% of national per capita income from 1993 to 2003.
- Per capita income grew considerably from 1998 to 2000, reaching a peak of \$46,000 in 2001. After decreasing in 2002, income again rose in 2003. In real dollars, 2003 per capita income was over \$23,500, a slight increase from 2002.
- When adjusted for inflation, per capita income has risen 17% since 1993. Growth slowed considerably after 1999 and real per capita income has not yet returned to its 2000 peak of \$25,000.

Fig. 2.2

Median Household Income: 1990-2004**Median Household Income**

- At \$60,700, median household income in King County is 42% higher than in 1994.
- When adjusted for inflation, median household income has risen by 9% since 1994.

Fig. 2.3

King County Household Income Distribution: 1990, 2000 and 2004

- The distribution of income in King County has changed over the last 14 years. Household income has not grown equally among King County's households.
- Households earning 50-99% of the median household income in 1990 outnumbered those households in any other category. By 2000, those households earning 150% and above of the median household income outnumbered those households in other category. The recession in King County between 2001 and 2003 seems to have sustained this trend. While the lowest and highest income categories are becoming larger, the proportion of "middle" income households is continuing to shrink.
- As shown in figure 2.3, the percentage of households in the "middle" income categories (50%-149% of median household income) has continued to fall over the last 14 years, decreasing from just over 51% in 1990 to about 45% of the total households in 2004.
- During the same time period, the percentage of households earning over 150% of median household income has grown at a faster rate than any other category and now accounts for over 31% of King County's households. The number of households earning less than half of median household income grew by close to 30% over the last 14 years.

Outcome: Increase Income and Reduce Poverty

Indicator 3: Percentage of population below the poverty level



Countywide Planning Policy Rationale

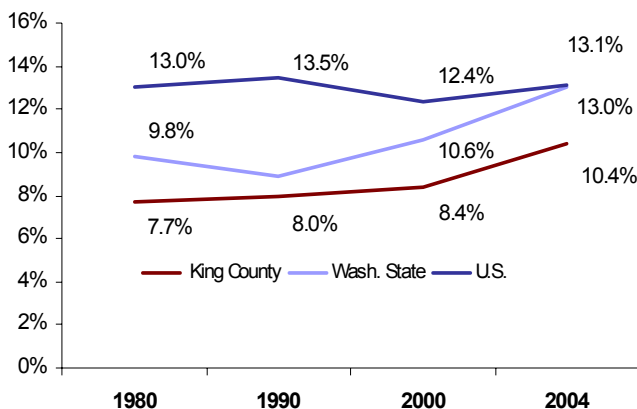
"An important component of achieving economic development is through...the empowerment of economically disadvantaged citizens and neighborhoods...." (CPP FW-35) "Jurisdictions shall develop strategies and support community-based actions to involve minorities, women and economically disadvantaged individuals in improving their economic future" (CPP ED-12)

Key Trends

- In 2004, a family of four lived in poverty if its annual income was under \$19,500. An individual under 65 years of age with an income below \$9,827 (or an individual over 65 years of age with an income below \$9,060) was considered to be living in poverty. The poverty threshold is set at the federal level and does not account for local cost of living differences. Because of the relatively high cost of living in King County, families and individuals earning below the federal poverty threshold will have an extraordinarily difficult time meeting their basic needs.
- A family of four below the poverty threshold could only afford \$500 or less per month in rent, while the average rent for a two bedroom, one bath apartment was \$800 in 2004.
- The poverty rate in King County in 2004 was 10.4%-a 35% increase from 1980. While the poverty rate in King County is significantly lower than the national rate, it has grown at a considerably faster rate. The 2004 national poverty rate of 13.1% saw only a one percent increase since 1980.

Fig. 3.1

Population Below Poverty Line



Outcome: Increase Business Formation, Expansion and Retention

Indicator 4: Number of New Businesses Created



Countywide Planning Policy Rationale

"Local jurisdiction's comprehensive plans shall include policies intended to foster...a business climate which is supportive of business formation, expansion, and retention and recognizes the importance of small businesses in creating new jobs...." (CPP ED-6) "Where appropriate, jurisdictions' plans shall include policies intended to attract and retain industries, firms and jobs, within their locally determined or zoned manufacturing and industrial areas." (CPP ED-8)

Fig. 4.1

New Businesses Created, King County *

	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2004
The Total Number of Businesses	34,624	39,575	48,712	56,182	64,123	53,885
Aggregate Change in number of Establishments	NA	4,951	9,137	7,470	7,941	-10,238
Percentage Change from Prior Reported Year	NA	14.3%	23.1%	15.3%	14.1%	-16.0%

* Data from 2004 may not be strictly comparable to earlier years. In the 4th quarter of 2003, the WA State Employment Security Department was able to cleanse their system of inactive firms, resulting in a reduction of about 7,000 employer units or businesses and is reflected in the 2004 total. Subsequently, real net change is difficult to determine. This table also reflects year-end revisions made by WA State Employment Security Department, current as of January, 2006.

Key Trends

- With a growing economy, 7,900 new businesses in King County were established between 1995 and 2000, peaking with a total of 64,123 businesses in 2000. The number of businesses in King County has since dropped by over 10,000 to almost 54,000 active firms in 2004.
- Given the recession from 2001 to 2003, it is likely that the region has indeed seen a loss in businesses over the course of the last four years. However, a portion of this business decline was recorded in 2003 due to data measuring changes made by the WA State Employment Security Department. As some of these business closings likely occurred in prior years, annual changes in business units may not be strictly comparable but the four-year trend does appear to illustrate a genuine business response to the recession.

Outcome: Increase Business Formation, Expansion and Retention

Indicator 5: Number of New Jobs Created, by Employment Sector

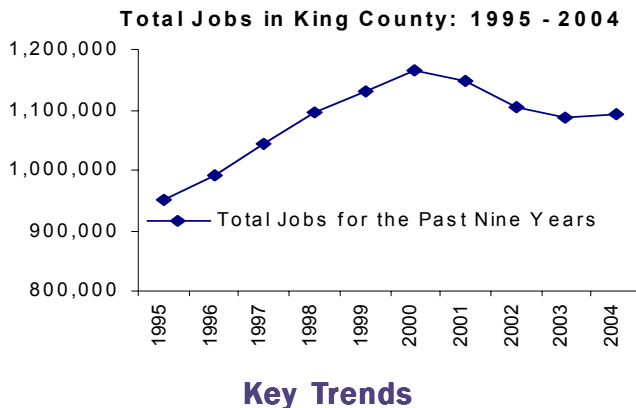


Countywide Planning Policy Rationale

"Local jurisdictions and the County shall work cooperatively on a regional basis and invite private sector participation to evaluate the trends...and to analyze the economic needs of key industries. Local jurisdictions...shall include policies intended to foster...a business climate which is supportive of business formation, expansion, and retention and recognizes the importance of small businesses in creating new jobs. Jurisdictions shall cooperate to establish economic diversification and development goals for the multi-County region [and]...identify the contribution they will make." (CPPs ED-6, ED-7)

There has been a change in the classification system for industries and jobs. Beginning with 2002 data, the Washington State Employment Security Department (ESD) shifted from the older Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system to the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). This change in classifications means that it is not possible to compare 2003 employment data by sector (only classified by NAICS code) with any year prior to 2002 (which was classified by both SIC and NAICS). We know the long-term trends in King County employment by sector from 1980 - 2002, and we can now begin to trace changes from 2002 on. Direct comparison by sector between 1980 or 1990 and 2004, however, is not possible.

Fig. 5.1



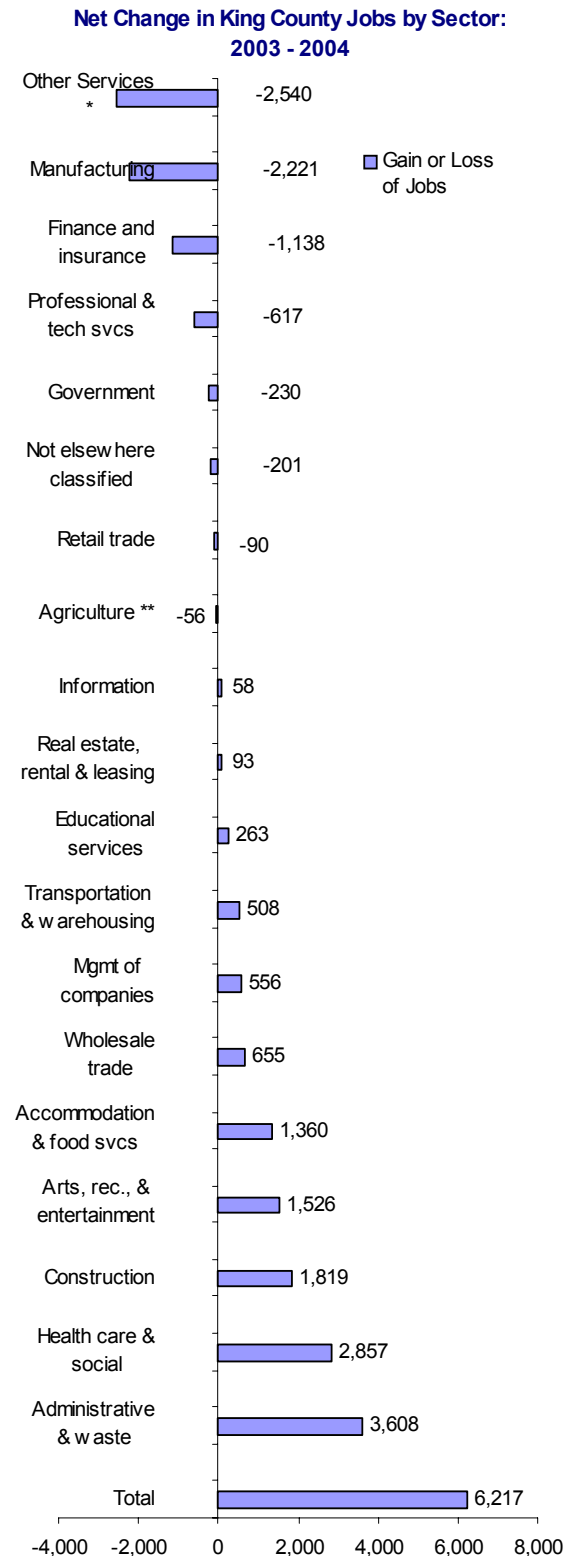
Long Term

- Employment grew during the mid to late 1990's by more than 214,000 jobs in King County, reaching its peak in 2000 with over 1.1 million jobs.
- During the recession from 2001 to 2003, King County lost over 78,000 jobs, with substantial losses in aerospace manufacturing, retail, and professional/ administrative services.
- Despite heavy job losses from 2001 to 2003, King County supported over 142,000 more jobs in 2004 than in 1995. Rebounding in 2004, employment has returned to its 1998 level. This upturn could signal a slow, but significant recovery from the recession.

Short Term

- Employment in King County grew by over 6,000 jobs from 2003 to 2004. This reversed a three-year trend of job losses since employment peaked in 2000. Despite job growth, there were still 72,300 fewer jobs in King County than in 2000.

Fig. 5.2



* Other services excludes public administration.

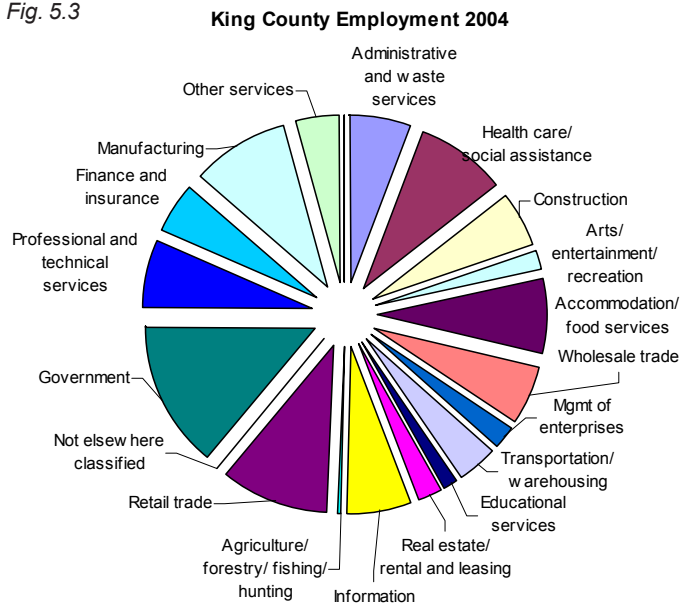
** Agriculture includes forestry, hunting, and fishing.

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Metropolitan King County Countywide Planning Policies Benchmark Program

Indicator 5 (continued)

Fig. 5.3



- Sectors which realized 2004 job growth include construction, health care, administrative professions, arts and entertainment, and accommodation and food services.
- The information sector recorded minimal job growth from 2003 to 2004, bolstered by gains in employment in software publishing which suffered from substantial job losses after its employment peak in 2001.
- Finance and insurance, manufacturing, and other services (except public administration) recorded job losses. Slight employment gains in food and machinery manufacturing were offset by a loss of over 2,400 jobs in transportation equipment manufacturing. Employment in private households (including in-home childcare and house cleaning) dropped by over 2,500 jobs from 2003 to 2004.

Outcome: Increase Jobs that Add to King County's Economic Base

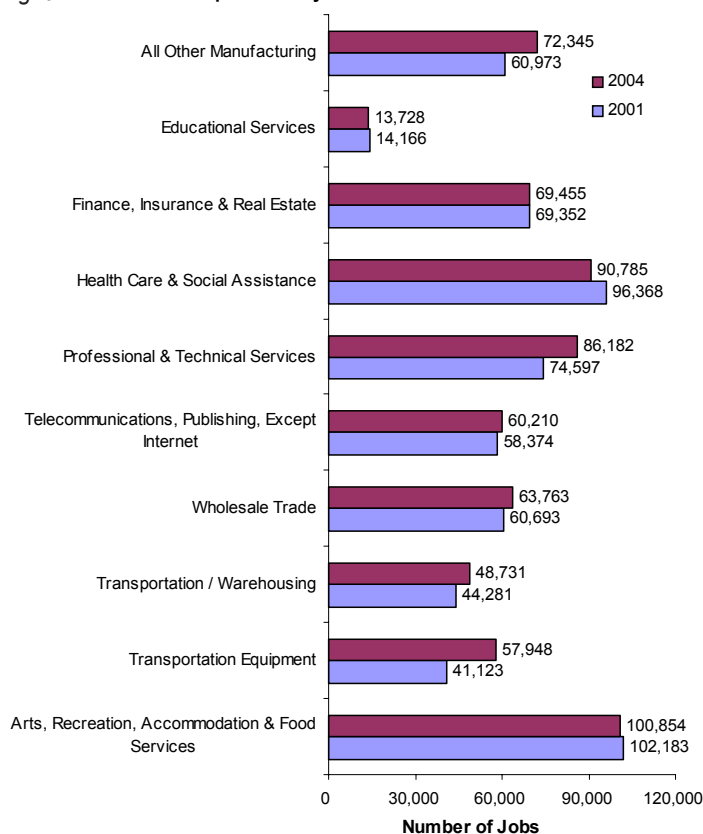
Indicator 6: Employment in Industries that Export from the Region



Export or basic sectors are those which contribute to the economic base by exporting to the rest of the state, nation and the world. Services as well as goods may be "exported", i.e. they serve a significant portion of clients who reside outside the County. The figures shown reflect all employment in sectors that export; however, not all employment in these sectors is directly related to exports.

Fig. 6.1

Export Jobs by Sector: 2001 and 2004



Countywide Planning Policy Rationale

"Local jurisdictions' plans shall include policies that actively support the retention and expansion of the economic base....Local jurisdictions' comprehensive plans shall include policies intended to foster the development and retention of those businesses and industries that export their goods and services outside the region. These businesses and industries are critical to the economic strength and diversification of the economy." (CPP ED-6)

Key Trends

- King County has a relatively diverse economy, with no sector dominating over the others when comparing the number of jobs provided by sector.
- Its export sector is similarly diverse, which is a change from 1980 when the manufacturing sector accounted for over 40% of all export jobs. Today, manufacturing provides less than 17% of all jobs in the export sector. Transportation equipment manufacturing (mainly aerospace) represents only 6.6% of the jobs in the export sector, a substantial decline from 1980 when the industry provided nearly 23% of the jobs in the export sector.
- The largest job gains in the export sector have occurred in health care and social assistance as well as educational services.
- With heavy job losses in several export sector industries, the percentage of export sector jobs in the county has decreased from 58% in 2001 to 57% in 2004.

Outcome: Increase Educational Skill Levels**Indicator 7: Educational Background of Adult Population****Countywide Planning Policy Rationale**

"An important component of achieving economic development is through...improved job training and educational opportunities..." (CPP FW-35) "Job training, retraining, and educational opportunities are critical to develop and maintain a highly skilled workforce" (CPP, ED-13)

Key Trends

- 43% of King County residents have a bachelor's degree or higher and 91% have graduated from high school. Both the high percentage of the King County population

Fig. 7.1

Educational Background of Adult Population: 2004			
Percent of population over 25 with:	King County	Washington State	U.S.
High School Diploma or Higher	91%	89%	84%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	43%	31%	27%

Fig. 7.2

Educational Background of Adult Population in King County					
Percent of population over 25 with:	1970	1980	1990	2000	2004*
High School Diploma or Higher	69%	83%	88%	90%	91%
Some college (no Bachelor's degree)	16%	23%	32%	31%	30%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	17%	26%	33%	40%	43%

*Based on American Communities Survey 2004 (U.S. Census Bureau); other years are decennial census

over 25 with a Bachelor's degree or higher are markedly higher than those in Washington state and nationally.

- Men and women in King County are equally likely to have earned a high school diploma, but there is a higher rate of college graduation among men than women. 46% of the male population over 25 has earned a Bachelor's degree or higher while 41% of the female population over 25 has done so.

Outcome: Increase Educational Skill Levels**Indicator 8: High School Cohort Graduation Rate****Countywide Planning Policy Rationale**

"An important component of achieving economic development is through...improved job training and educational opportunities..." (CPP FW-35) "Job training, retraining, and educational opportunities are critical to develop and maintain a highly skilled workforce. Jurisdictions shall cooperate in efforts to meet these training and educational needs on a Countywide basis." (CPP, ED-13)

- The rate of on-time graduation increased from 66.5% in 2003 to 75.0% in 2004. The Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction attributes this improvement in on-time graduation rates to better record keeping and data analysis by the state, as well as increased efforts by educators.
- At 75.0% the King County on-time graduation rate exceeded the rate for Washington State as a whole, which was 70.6%. The 2004 on-time graduation rate for males was 71.4%, while almost 79% of the females in the class on 2004 graduated on-time.
- The extended graduation rate, which includes students who take longer than four years to graduate, was 79.8%.
- Mercer Island had the highest on-time graduation rate at 94.9%, followed by Riverview and Bellevue with rates of 90.0% and 88.6% respectively.

Fig. 8.1

2004 Cohort Graduation & Dropout Rates by Ethnicity: Washington State and King County				
	WA State	King County		
Ethnic Group	On-Time Graduation Rate	Percent Remaining in Cohort at the end of 12th Grade	On-Time Graduation Rate	Annual Drop Out Rate
American Indian	48.1%	71.3%	53.5%	8.2%
Asian	78.3%	91.6%	83.1%	2.4%
Black	55.5%	81.1%	67.1%	6.2%
Hispanic	54.5%	77.5%	63.8%	6.5%
White	74.0%	83.8%	76.8%	4.3%

- There are continuing significant differences in the graduation and dropout rates of different ethnic groups. However, there has been improvement in the on-time graduation rate for all groups, notably among Black and Hispanic students whose rates of on-time graduation increased 24.4% and 21.9% respectively.

(continued on page eight)

Metropolitan King County Countywide Planning Policies Benchmark Program

(Indicator 8, continued)
Fig. 8.2

Cohort Graduation Rate in King County Districts: 2004				
School District	Class of 2002	Class of 2003	Class of 2004	
	Estimated Cohort Graduation Rate*	On-Time Cohort Graduation Rate	Remaining in School at the end of Grade 12	On-Time Cohort Graduation Rate
Auburn	76.4%	75.8%	85.7%	71.5%
Bellevue	76.2%	78.4%	95.3%	88.6%
Enumclaw	92.2%	88.8%	85.5%	78.2%
Federal Way	65.4%	61.6%	84.7%	78.3%
Highline	57.0%	43.2%	85.4%	74.2%
Issaquah	88.7%	86.0%	94.1%	88.1%
Kent	82.2%	67.7%	69.6%	68.5%
Lake Washington	86.2%	84.8%	94.8%	87.3%
Mercer Island	93.4%	95.2%	99.4%	94.9%
Northshore	90.4%	86.4%	78.8%	77.0%
Renton	51.4%	59.2%	78.5%	74.9%
Riverview	86.2%	88.5%	95.2%	90.0%
Seattle	53.2%	50.2%	80.0%	62.6%
Shoreline	79.8%	82.7%	90.0%	80.7%
Skykomish	57.1%	80.0%	38.6%	38.6%
Snoqualmie Valley	61.5%	53.8%	95.9%	79.2%
Tukwila	65.5%	66.7%	56.3%	50.0%
Tahoma	61.5%	62.7%	82.3%	74.4%
Vashon	73.1%	77.9%	92.7%	81.6%
Total KC	70.4%	66.5%	83.7%	75.0%

The **King County Countywide Planning Policies Benchmark Program** is a program of the Metropolitan King County Growth Management Planning Council. Reports on the Benchmark Indicators are published bimonthly by the King County Office of Budget. A companion to these reports is the **King County Annual Growth Report**. All reports are available on the Internet at <http://www.metrokc.gov/budget/>. For information about the **Benchmark Program**, please contact Lisa Voight, Program Manager (206) 296-3464, or e-mail: lisa.voight@metrokc.gov. Mailing address is King County Office of Management and Budget, 701 5th Ave, Suite 3200, Seattle, WA 98104.

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*Please note that the estimated graduation rates for 2002 is not comparable to 2003 and 2004. The Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has been refining its data and methodology over the last few years in order to supply an accurate "cohort graduation rate". This rate measures the percent of students who graduate "on time" in the spring of their fourth year of high school. The cohort graduation rate for 2003 is the outcome of more complete dropout data for 9th, 10th, and 11th grades than in previous years, and a more accurate accounting for transfers in and out of a district. The 2003 result is a more realistic appraisal of the actual "on-time" cohort graduation rate than in 2001 and 2002.

The rate of those "remaining in school" at the end of 12th grade (reported only for 2003) is significantly higher than the "on time" graduation rate. It indicates that many students are still in the educational system at 12th grade, but will not graduate "on time". It is unknown how many of these will eventually receive a high school or community college diploma or a G.E.D., or will never complete high school.

Highlights (continued from page one)

King County continues to have a highly educated workforce, with 91% of the adult population having a high school diploma or higher and 43% having a bachelor's degree or higher. In 2004, 75% of the high school graduating class graduated with their cohort.

This bulletin highlights long-term trends that indicate the county has seen substantial growth over the last decade. Though the county has not fully recovered from the economic slowdown from 2001-2004, short-term indicators suggest a modest recovery is underway.

Data Sources

Indicator 1: Real Wages Per Worker

Data Source: *Employment and Payrolls in Washington State by County and Industry, Annual Averages*, Washington State Employment Security Department (ESD): 1980 - 2004. U.S. Census Bureau, *Decennial Census of Population*: 1990 and 2000; *American Community Survey*, 2004. Northwest Federation of Community Organizations for estimate of living wage.

Indicator 2: Personal Income and Median Household Income

Data Sources: Fig.2.1 and Fig. 2.2: *Local Area Personal Income and Washington Total Personal Income and Per Capita Personal Income* (by county), Bureau of Economic Analysis, U. S. Department of Commerce. Per capita personal income table are available on the web at <http://www.bea.gov/>. Also the *Decennial Census of Population* for median household incomes in 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Median Family Income and Income Eligibility Limits by Household Size, 1991 - 2005, available on the web at <http://huduser.org>. Household income includes all sources of income and typically includes more than one worker, hence median household income is higher than per capita personal income. HUD revised downward its family income estimates for King County in 2004, recognizing that it had overestimated income during the recession period.

Indicator 3: Percentage of Population in Poverty

Data Sources: *Decennial Census of Population: Social and Economic Characteristics*, Washington, 1980, 1990 and 2000. *American Community Survey*, 2004. www.census.gov. 2004 *King County Housing Affordability Study*, Dupre + Scott, April 2004.

Indicator 4: New Businesses Created

Data Source: *Employment and Payrolls in Washington State by County and Industry, Annual Averages*, Washington State ESD: 1980 - 2004. The figures presented are net figures which account for business closures.

Indicator 5: New Jobs by Employment Sector

Data Source: *Employment and Payrolls in Washington State by County and Industry, Annual Averages*, Washington State ESD, 1980 - 2004.

Indicator 6: New Jobs in Sectors that Export

Data Sources: *Employment and Payrolls in Washington State by County and Industry, Annual Averages*. Washington State Employment Security Department (ESD): 1980 - 2004. ESD switched to the NAICS classification system in 2002, making direct comparison by sector difficult for years prior to 2002. U.S. Census Bureau: *County Business Patterns*, 2001. The latter uses the NAICS classification of sectors.

Location quotients are ratios which identify which industry sectors contribute to the economic base through exports. The formula for Location Quotients is:

$$\frac{(\text{Total workers in a particular sector in King County}) / (\text{Total employment in King County})}{(\text{Total workers in a particular sector in the U.S.}) / (\text{Total employment in the U.S.})}$$

The higher a sector's Location Quotient is, the more it exports to the rest of the state, nation or world.

Indicator 7: Educational Background of Adult Population

Data Source: *Decennial Census of Population* (1970, 1980, 1990, 2000). *American Community Survey*, 2004.

Indicator 8: Twelfth Grade Graduation Rate

Data Source: Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), Olympia: 2005. See also *Graduation and Dropout Statistics for Washington's Counties, Districts, and Schools, School Year 2003-2004*, Washington Superintendent of Public Instruction, September 2005.